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considerable discussion. Is it not possible that Sir George Sitwell has, in considering the evidences he has found, confused the independent situation of the freeinan as contrasted with that of the bondsman, with actual social rank? Edmund Burke, in well-known words, has called attention to this contrast and the feeling excited by it. "Freedom is to them [freemen living among slaves] not only an enjoyment, but a kind of rank or privilege." This state of feeling among all freemen continued to exist in the Southern States of the Union until the end of slavery, but it was far from placing all free men in the social rank of "gentlemen."

In this notice only a few articles out of two very interesting tables of contents have been referred to, but there are many others which attract attention.

Of the appearance of *The Ancestor* the highest praise can be given. Each number is a handsome, well-bound quarto, and with its 240 or more pages, good paper and print, wide margins, and numerous and handsome illustrations, it easily surpasses any similar periodical which reaches us. The wonder is how it can be sold at the low price of \$1.50 a number.

GENEALOGY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF JOHN WALKER, OF WIGTON, SCOTLAND, with Records of a Few Allied Families, Also War Records and some Fragmentary Notes Pertaining to the History of Virginia, 1600-1902. By Emma Siggins White, Kansas City, Mo. Press of Tibman-Dart Printing Company, 1902. Pp. 722; 70 illustrations. Index.

The first impression given by this book is of the immense amount of work and indefatigable investigation which must have been required to compile it. Tracing the genealogy of a family of eastern Virginia, which had been resident in one county for generations, and where, when the records are preserved, there is generally considerable data, is difficult, but to trace down to the present time a family which first settled in a frontier county and in a section where new counties were so frequently formed, while members of the family constantly emigrated to various and distant parts of the West and South, was indeed a difficult task, but one which Mrs. White has performed well.

The families treated of at some length include the names of Walker, Rutherford, McPheeters, Stuart, Todd, McClung, Kelso, Irvine, Logan, Abernathy, Campbell, Coalter, Moore, Morrison, Bates, Brown, Inman, Woodruff, Patterson, Scott, Hindman, Taylor, Hays, Polk, Boone, McCrosky, Houston, Bernard, &c, while hundreds of other names have a lesser space.

Most of the families named settled in Virginia in Augusta county or more especially in what is now Rockbridge, and the book gives a good illustration of what the "Scotch-Irish" have done in the making of America.

Of course it is impossible for any one person to make an assertion of the accuracy of all parts of Mrs. White's large work, but there is every evidence that in the history of the lineage of the families in America she has used every effort to secure accuracy.

The only weak points are in the department of American genealogy, in which such mistakes so often occur. The descent from the Rev. Joseph Alleine, and from Rev. Samuel Rutherford, the royal descent through the Logans, and above all, the claim in regard to the Duke of Argyle (not by Mrs. White, however, on her own authority), are either unsupported by proof, or, as in the last-named case, mistakes. These things, however, are mere flaws, and in no way affect the great excellence or value of the book.

DONALD ROBERTSON AND HIS WIFE RACHEL ROGERS, of King and Queen County, Virginia, Their Ancestry and Posterity, Also a Brief Account of the Ancestry of Commodore Richard Taylor, of Orange County, Virginia, and His Naval History During the War of the American Revolution. By William Kyle Anderson. Illustrated. Pp. 263, index xxvi. [Preface dated Detroit, Mich., 1900.] Winn & Hammond, Printers, Detroit.

This is a most carefully prepared genealogy of another of the Scotch families, which have done so much for Virginia and the country at large. Beginning with a Charles Robertson, who is believed to have lived near Inverness, and who had a son born in 1681, the account comes down through Donald Robertson, who came to Virginia in 1752, and settled in King and Queen county, where he was long noted as a teacher. Among his pupils were James Madison and George Rogers Clark.

Among the families treated of in addition to the Robertsons are the Rogers, Semples (descended from two sons of Rev. James Semple, minister of Dreghorn, Scotland), Garner, Taylor, Jacob, Byrne, Anderson, Green, Bradford, Clay, and many others.

On pages 205-224 the much disputed question of the marriage of John Rogers, of King and Queen, with Mary, daughter of William Byrd, 1st, of Westover, is considered. Mr. Anderson makes a careful investigation and concludes that there is no ground for the assertion, but that it is almost certain that Mrs. Rogers was a member of the Bird family, of King and Queen.

The latter part of the book treats of the immediate ancestry and the Revolutionary career of Commodore Richard Taylor. In conclusion it only need be said that Mr. Anderson's book is handsome in appearance, well illustrated, and that the genealogical work is thoroughly well done.